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REMARKS

In the outstanding action, in which prosecution was reopened, and a new ground of rejection was asserted, Claims 2, 4, 6-11 were objected to, Claims 15-18 and 20-28 were rejected under the doctrine of obviousness-type double patenting, Claims 2, 4, 6, 9-13, 32 and 35-37 were rejected as being anticipated by Howland et al. ("Howland"), Claim 7 was rejected as being unpatentable over Howland in view of Jagielinski et al. ("Jagielinski"), and Claim 14 was rejected as being unpatentable over Howland in view of Chatwin et al. ("Chatwin"). Claim 8 was objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but was indicated as allowable if rewritten in independent form, and Claim 15 was indicated as allowable if a terminal disclaimer was submitted.

Objections to Claims

Claims 2, 4 and 6-11 stand objected to as being of improper dependent form. This objection is respectfully traversed. The claims originally depended from Claim 1, and were amended to depend from Claim 13 in the amendment filed February 26, 2004 when Claim 13 was rewritten in independent form. See MPEP 608.01(m) at 600-81 ("During prosecution, the order of claims may change, and be in conflict with the requirement that dependent claims refer to a preceding claim..."). The objection is mooted by cancellation of Claims 2, 4, 6-7 and 9-11, and by amendment of Claim 8 to independent form.

The objection to Claim 4 as reciting AIO3 is mooted by cancellation of the claim. Claim 18 has been amended in the manner suggested by the Examiner regarding Claim 4.

Obviousness-type Double Patenting

The rejection of Claims 15-18 and 20-28 is mooted by the terminal disclaimer filed herewith.

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Claims Rejections -35 USC 102

This ground of rejection is mooted by cancellation of Claims 2, 4, 6, 9-13, 32 and 35-37.

Claims Rejections - 35 USC 103

This ground of rejection has been mooted by cancellation of Claims 7 and 14.

Allowable Subject Matter

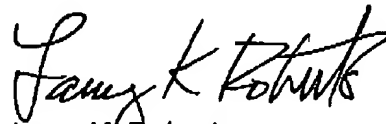
Claim 8 is in condition for allowance, having been rewritten in independent form.

Claim 15 is also allowable, in view of the terminal disclaimer submitted herewith. Claims 15-18 and 20-28 depend from Claim 15, directly or indirectly, and are also in condition for allowance.

Conclusion

The outstanding objections and rejections have been addressed, and the application is in condition for allowance. Such favorable reconsideration is solicited.

Respectfully submitted,



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